GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3835
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Global Hunger Index
Singh Shri Sushil Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the poor position accorded to the country in the latest Global Hunger Index (GHI);
(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto indicating the number of starvation deaths reported during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
(c) the steps taken to improve the position in GHI?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As per information available in the public domain, Global Hunger Index report 2015 brought out by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in its latest publication released in October, 2015, India has been ranked as 80 among 117 countries. No death due to starvation has been reported by any state during the last three years and the current year.
(c): The Government of India has accorded high priority to the issue of hunger and malnutrition in the country and is implementing several schemes/programmes through State Governments/UT Administrations to improve food security situation in the country. These include Targeted Public Distribution System(TPDS), Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) for providing Supplementary Nutrition, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme for pre-school children and pregnant and lactating mothers through the Ministry of Women and Child Development, National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) through Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDM) for primary and upper primary children through Ministry of Human Resource Development, Annapurna Scheme for the senior citizens, Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls, Emergency Feeding Programme, etc. The Government is also implementing the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 to provide food security to the population. The Act provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural and 50% of the urban population to receive highly subsidized foodgrains under TPDS. The Act also contains provisions for nutritional support to Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers or children below 14 years of age.
****